

1           1.    A method comprising:  
2                receiving on a first client a message from a  
3   server addressed to said client; and  
4                controlling the storage of information on said  
5   client based on information included in said message.

1           2.    The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2                assigning an individual identifier to the clients  
3   comprising a set of clients including said first client;  
4                assigning a group identifier to a subset of the  
5   clients within the set of clients; and  
6                enabling the first client in said set to  
7   determine whether a message is sent to the first client or  
8   to the subset.

1           3.    The method of claim 2 further including sending a  
2   single message to a subset of said clients.

1           4.    The method of claim 2 including sending  
2   television content to a plurality of clients.

1           5.    The method of claim 2 wherein assigning an  
2   individual identifier includes assigning a code portion  
3   that identifies a particular client as belonging to a  
4   subset of clients within the set of clients.



1           12. The article of claim 11 further comprising a  
2 medium storing instructions that enable a processor-based  
3 system to:

4                 assign an individual identifier to a client  
5 comprising a set of clients;

6                 assign a group identifier to a subset of the  
7 client within the set of clients; and

8                 enable a first client in said set to determine  
9 whether a message is sent to the first client or to the  
10 subset.

1           13. The article of claim 12 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3 a single message to a subset of said clients.

1           14. The article of claim 12 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3 television content to a plurality of clients.

1           15. The article of claim 12 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 assign a code portion that identifies a particular client  
4 as belonging to a subset of clients within the set of  
5 clients.

1           16. The article of claim 15 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 compare a group identifier, received by a client with a  
4 message, to the client's individual identifier to determine  
5 whether the client is within the address subset.

1           17. The article of claim 12 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 address the same message to a subset of clients.

1           18. The article of claim 12 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to send  
3 a message to a client in a unidirectional messaging system.

1           19. The article of claim 11 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 decode a command within said message to modify the storage  
4 of information on a storage device.

1           20. The article of claim 19 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 modify a partition on said storage device in response to a  
4 command included within said message.



1           25. The method of claim 24 including transmitting a  
2 message including an identifier which specifies a task to  
3 perform on a storage device.

1           26. The method of claim 24 including transmitting a  
2 message to an agent on said client to cause the client to  
3 alter the way information is stored on said client.

1           27. An article comprising a medium storing  
2 instructions that enable a processor-based system to:  
3           transmit a message to a client; and  
4           control the storage of information on said client  
5 based on information included in said message.

1           28. The article of claim 27 further storing  
2 instructions that enable a processor-based system to  
3 transmit a message including an identifier which specifies  
4 a task to perform on a storage device.

1           29. The article of claim 27 further storing  
2 instructions that enable a processor-based system to  
3 transmit a message to an agent on said client to cause the  
4 client to alter the way information is stored on said  
5 client.

1           30. A system comprising:  
2                 a processor-based device; and  
3                 a storage storing instructions that enable said  
4 processor-based device to transmit a message to a client  
5 and control the storage of information on said client based  
6 on the information included in said message.